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May 13, 1931

WORLD HOG AND PORK PROSPECTS

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SUMMARY

Hog prices in both the United States and Europe continued to decline during April. During the first seven months of the current hog marketing year, American market supplies of hogs were somewhat under those of last season during the same period, although they were larger from January to April. Indications are that for the next five months hog slaughter in the United States will be under that of last year. There is little evidence, however, of any improvement in either domestic or foreign demand for American pork products during that period. European hog numbers and slaughter figures continue at high levels.

Present prospects are for a continuation of the present large number of hogs in the principal producing countries of Europe during 1931. While Denmark has apparently reached a peak in the hog production cycle, Germany, the Netherlands, and Poland all give indications of a further increase in numbers although production may show some decline during the last part of 1931. In spite of the decline in hog prices, the production of hogs in most European countries has not been discouraged to any considerable degree except possible in western Germany.

United States exports of pork products continue to decline, despite the downward trend in prices. In practically all export lines, the totals for the six months ended March 31 were materially under similar totals for last year. In the British cured pork market, bacon and ham prices, particularly the latter, continued weak during April. European supplies, especially Danish, remain at record figures.

Lard prices in both the United Kingdom and continental markets were easier during April than in March. March imports of lard into British and German ports from the United States were well maintained, but the totals for the first six months of the season were under 1929-30 figures. An additional amount of competition is developing from European lard producing countries, notably Denmark.

Fresh pork prices in the United States were stronger during the latter part of April. At the end of the month, light loin prices were close to the 1930 level, but prices of other cuts were still well below those of a year earlier. The prices of lard and cured pork in the United States during April averaged about the same as those in March.

Hog numbers

A comparison of the number of hogs in 16 countries [a] in 1930 with an average for the years 1927-1928 when numbers in most countries reached their highest point in either one or the other of those years, shows that in 1930 the number was 111 million or only 3 per cent below the high point of 1927-1928. Including Russia, where numbers in 1930 were estimated at only 13,200,000 compared with 20,500,000 in 1929, the decrease was about 10 per cent. In 12 [b] European countries alone, exclusive of Russia, the number in 1930 was 49,170,000 and had practically reached the average for the years 1927-1928. Latest reports of numbers in 1931 in important European hog producing countries indicate that the high point reached in most countries in 1927 or 1928 will be exceeded in 1931.

There has been a decline in hog numbers in the United States since 1928 and on January 1, 1931, the number was only 52,323,000, a decrease of 2 per cent compared with 1930 and 14 per cent compared with 1928. However, brood sows as of January 1, 1931, were estimated at 10,044,000, an increase of 1 per cent over 1930, but 7 per cent less than the number reported as of January, 1927. Canada also reported fewer hogs in June, 1930 than a year earlier, the number being estimated at 4 million, a decrease of 9 per cent. This was the lowest number reported in that country since 1922. Brood sows in June were reported at 507,000, a decrease of 6 per cent below 1929 and 12 per cent below 1927, the highest point reached in recent years.

Hog numbers in 3 important European producing countries, i.e., Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands are estimated at approximately 29 million, according to latest reports for 1931, an increase of 10 per cent compared with estimates for last summer.

a/ Canada, United States, Argentina, United Kingdom, Irish Free State, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Poland, and Estonia. b/ United Kingdom, Irish Free State, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Poland, Estonia and New Zealand.

A well-known German authority on the hog situation in that country forecasts that the peak of the present cycle in Germany will be reached by September 1931. The number of brood sows of six months to one year showed a decrease of 2 per cent on March 1 compared with the preceding year, while the number of such sows in farrow decreased 6.8 per cent, indicating a tendency to restrict breeding operations. On the other hand, brood sows over one year increased 23 per cent. Pigs for slaughter of six months to one year increased 17 per cent, but slaughter pigs over one year showed a reduction of 7.6 per cent from a year ago. A study of the quarterly estimates of different classes of hogs in Germany for the last two years forecasts a slowing up in breeding operations as indicated by a less rapid increase in pigs under eight weeks and of breeding sows of one year and over, as well as by an actual decrease in the per cent of breeding pigs six months to one year, states Assistant Agricultural Commissioner D. F. Christy, at Berlin.

The number of hogs in Denmark in January, 1931, was estimated at 5,232,000, the largest number yet reported for that country. Although there is no previous estimate of the same date to compare it with, a comparison with the number in July, 1930, shows an increase of 6 per cent. Sows of four months and over showed a decrease of 1 per cent to 581,000 compared with the number in July, when the number in that country was the highest on record. Slaughtering during the months, July to March 30, reached 6,645,000, an increase of almost 70 per cent over the same period of 1929-30 and also an increase of over 60 per cent over the same period of 1927-28. The decrease in the number of sows mentioned above indicates somewhat lighter marketing during the latter part of 1931 and early 1932.

Hog numbers in the Netherlands in June, 1930, were estimated at 2,018,000, according to the census. Of this number, 242,000 were reported as brood sows; 472,000 as pigs under six weeks; 940,000, hogs up to 132 pounds; 263,000, hogs of 132 to 220 pounds; and 101,000 over 220 pounds. An estimate of the Netherlands Department of Agriculture showing developments in hog numbers since June, 1930, in percentages permits us to give an estimate for March 1, 1931, which shows brood sows at 232,000, a decrease of 4 per cent compared with June, 1930, and a very slight increase over March, 1930. Other classes of hogs as of March, 1931, show increases ranging from 0 to 10 per cent over March of 1930, i.e., farrows under six weeks increasing 5 per cent; hogs over six weeks to 132 pounds, 5 to 10 per cent; hogs 132 to 220 pounds, 10 per cent and those over 220 pounds, remaining about the same. The increases in sows in farrow and young pigs are considerably smaller than those reported a year earlier, whereas the increase in hogs of slaughter weights are slightly higher, especially those of 132 to 220 pounds. It is believed that while production is apparently close to the peak of the cycle, no material reduction in hog numbers can be expected in the near future unless the hog-feed ratio becomes considerably more unfavorable than at present.

Hog numbers have also been declining in New Zealand, the most important exporter of frozen pork to the United Kingdom. In 1930 the number of hogs in that country was reported as only 488,000, a decrease of 12 per cent compared with 1929 and 17 per cent compared with the high point reached in 1928. In Argentina, where the pork export trade has shown evidence of recent developments, hog numbers were reported at 3,769,000, according to the census of July, 1930, compared with 1,437,000 in December, 1922, and 2,901,000 in July, 1914.

HOGS: Number in principal pork exporting and importing countries, average pre-war, 1921-1930

Year	United States Jan. 1	Denmark July	Netherlands May-June	Canada June	Irish Free State June	Sweden June	Total b/
	Number in principal pork exporting countries a/						
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Average pre-war c/	53,300	2,715	1,305	3,350	1,046	1,023	60,411
1921	58,602	1,430	1,519	3,905	891	d/ 1,011	64,828
1922	59,559	1,899		3,916	938		66,312
1923	69,044	2,855		4,405	1,186		77,490
1924	66,361	2,868		5,069	987		75,285
1925	55,568	2,517		4,426	732	1,100	63,243
1926	52,148	3,122		4,360	884		60,514
1927	54,788	3,731		4,695	1,178	e/ 1,369	64,392
1928	60,617	3,363		4,497	1,183		69,660
1929	57,410	3,616		4,382	945		66,353
1930	53,238	4,928	f/ 2,018	4,000	1,052		63,210
1931	52,323	g/ 5,232					
	Number in principal pork importing countries						
	United Kingdom June	Germany Dec. h/	France Dec. h/	Czechoslovakia Dec. h/	Austria Dec. h/	Italy Mar-Apr	Total b/
Average pre-war c/	2,754	22,533	7,529	2,516	1,932	2,685	32,816
1921	2,756	14,153	4,941	2,201	1,326	i/ 2,509	21,850
1922	2,568	15,818	5,166				23,552
1923	2,993	14,678	5,196		j/ 1,473		22,867
1924	3,567	k/ 17,308	5,406				26,281
1925	2,911	16,895	5,802				25,608
1926	2,504	16,200	5,793	2,539		l/ 2,850	24,497
1927	3,124	19,424	5,777				28,325
1928	3,396	22,899	6,019				32,314
1929	2,701	20,106	6,017				28,824
1930	2,664	19,944	-	f/ 3,088		f/ 3,157	
1931	-	23,365	-				

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Countries arranged in order of importance as exporting or importing countries b/ Total countries reporting each year, pre-war 1921-1929. c/ Average for five years immediately preceding war wherever available. Otherwise for any years or year within this period, unless otherwise stated. In countries having changed boundaries estimates are for one year only of numbers within present boundaries. d/ Census 1920. e/ September . f/ Census g/ January 1, 1931. h/ Estimate for countries reporting as of December have been considered as of January of the following year. i/ Estimate for present boundaries for 1918. j/ March. k/ October. No estimate available for December 1923. l/ Unofficial.

BROOD SOWS: Number in principal pork and hog exporting and importing countries reporting, pre-war and 1925-1931

Country	Month of estimate	Pre-war	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Exporting Countries:									
United States	Jan. 1		10,088	10,286	10,855	10,587	10,412	9,924	10,044
Denmark, sows 4 months and over	July	283	290	391	396	344	434	588	a/ 581
Canada	June		533	569	577	551	537	507	-
Irish Free State	June	108	75	93	124	115	96	111	-
Sweden, boars and sows	June	128				135			
Netherlands	May-June							242	-
Poland						b/ 761			
Hungary	July		602	547	531	579	554	497	-
New Zealand	Jan.		60	64	69	82	75	62	-
Rumania	Dec. c/		1,042	1,017	1,086	1,066	975	-	-
Yugoslavia	Jan.		685	692	694	662	-	-	-
Importing Countries:									
England & Wales	June	332	316	301	393	380	307	315	
Scotland	June	18	16	13	27	22	16	18	
North Ireland	June	-	11	16	25	22	17	20	
Total	June	-	343	335	445	424	340	353	
Germany									
Six months to one year	Dec. c/		462	491	625	504	556	603	d/ 673
One year and over			813	882	1,126	1,218	1,063	1,178	d/ 1,496
Total			1,275	1,373	1,751	1,722	1,619	1,841	d/ 2,169
France	Dec. c/	e/ 907	779	777	776	785	790	-	-
Belgium	Dec. c/		124	129	127	130	130	137	141
Norway	June		41	41	39	-	-	46	-
Finland, sows over six months	Sept.		39	40	43	43	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	Dec. & May	-	305	-	-	-	-	446	-

Compiled from official sources.

a/ January 31.

b/ Ten months and over.

c/ Estimates reported as of December have been considered as of January 1 of following year.

d/ See table page 24 for March 1931 estimate.

e/ Excluding Alsace-Lorraine.

HOGS: Slaughter in specified countries, average pre-war and 1914-1930

Year	United States Federal inspected	Germany inspected slaughter	Denmark in cpt. slaughter houses	England & Wales sold off farms for slaughter a/	Scotland sold off farms for slaughter a/	Ireland purchased by Irish bacon curers	Canada	Netherland receipts at 21 markets
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Average pre-war b/	31,759	16,406	2,503	3,487	-	1,282	4,280	875
1914	32,532	c/	2,858	-	-	-	-	1,085
1915	38,381	c/	2,594	-	-	-	-	842
1916	43,084	c/	2,542	-	-	-	-	850
1917	33,910	c/	2,479	-	-	-	-	600
1918	41,214	c/	324	-	-	-	-	217
1919	41,812	1,368	456	-	-	874	5,526	422
1920	38,019	3,024	930	2,700	146	898	4,834	648
1921	38,982	6,825	1,641	3,471	173	1,030	5,297	1,362
1922	43,114	6,923	2,215	5,229	176	926	5,382	865
1923	53,334	5,830	3,414	3,691	245	955	6,056	906
1924	52,873	10,527	4,024	4,500	242	1,110	6,625	1,068
1925	43,043	12,090	3,766	3,583	-	911	5,720	1,045
1926	40,656	13,072	3,838	3,074	-	910	5,636	1,025
1927	43,633	17,279	5,098	3,680	-	1,050	5,965	1,152
1928	49,795	19,391	5,673	4,109	-	1,264	5,880	1,068
1929	48,445	17,252	4,994	d/3,245	d/	d/1,142	5,747	-
1930	44,265	17,994	e/5,500	f/3,174		1,037		

Compiled from official sources and cabled reports from Agricultural Commissioners abroad.

a/ For years ended May 31 following.

b/ Average for five years immediately preceding war period if available, otherwise for any year or years within that period unless otherwise stated. In countries having changed boundaries, the figures are estimates for one year only for numbers within present boundaries.

c/ Not available for present boundaries. For former boundaries, the numbers slaughtered are as follows; in thousands - 1914, 19,441; 1915, 13,293; 1916, 6,348; 1917, 5,795; 1918, 2,430.

d/ Unofficial estimate of total slaughter in the United Kingdom and Irish Free State based on methods of estimating published in The Agricultural Output of England and Wales, 4,890,000 in 1929-30 compared with 6,178,000 in 1928-29.

e/ In cooperative slaughter houses alone compared with 4,500,000 in the same establishments in 1929.

f/ Unofficial estimate based on method of estimating outlined in The Agricultural Output of England and Wales 1925.

HOGS: Slaughter in United States, Germany, Denmark, and Canada, by months, seasons October-September, 1928-29 to 1930-31 a/

Month	United States inspected			Germany at 36 points			Denmark export houses			Canada inspected		
	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931	1928-1929	1929-1930	1930-1931
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Oct.	3,713	3,857	3,492	455	357	418	494	501	b/ 596	200	207	160
Nov.	4,455	4,499	4,024	411	356	278	398	395	b/ 598	232	234	168
Dec.	5,782	5,083	4,647	407	382	452	442	488	b/ 655	239	221	170
Jan.	5,738	5,001	5,362	388	351	391	402	438	b/ 650	249	207	166
Feb.	4,478	4,034	4,142	367	335	405	348	407	b/ 509	208	168	161
Mar.	3,645	3,392	3,523	411	373	503	384	442	b/ 638	215	168	154
Total six months	27,811	25,866	25,190	3,439	2,154	3,447	2,468	2,671	3,646	1,343	1,203	979
Apr.	3,761	3,480		395	374		429	529		208	162	
May	3,798	3,823		391	371		435	432		187	174	
June	3,756	3,689		333	344		358	478		161	159	
July	3,597	3,187		340	361		432	c/ 423		159	127	
Aug.	3,130	2,724		325	344		399	c/ 456		161	124	
Sept.	3,104	2,773		346	351		422	c/ 506		142	140	
Total for season	48,957	45,542		4,569	4,299		4,943	5,495		2,361	2,091	

a/ Season accepted as most representative for the United States.
b/ Adjusted from weekly figures published in Landbrugsraadets Middelelser since October 2, 1930.
c/ Adjusted from weekly figures supplied by Smor Tidende.

United States

Hog prices in the United States declined during April, reaching at the end of the month the winter low point established in late February. After advancing moderately during the week ended April 4, prices declined steadily and the average price at Chicago for the week ended May 2 was $6.91 per 100 pounds, as compared with $7.64 a month earlier, $9.90 in the corresponding week in 1930, and $6.89 the winter low point established during the last week in February. The Chicago average for the month was $7.26 as against $7.46 in March and $10.00 in April 1930.

Inspected slaughter during April, amounting to 3,488,000 head was about the same as that of April, 1930 being only .2 of one per cent larger than that of April 1930. The average live weight of hogs slaughtered continued larger than that of a year earlier although a seasonal reduction occurred during the last half of the month. There was little change during April in the premium paid for light weight hogs.

The market movement of the 1930 fall pig crop is now well under way. Although slaughter from week to week has been irregular, the trend has been upward since mid-March when the seasonal low point was apparently reached and the fall

pig crop began to move to market. The movement is somewhat earlier than usual this spring due in large part to the mild weather which prevailed and the liberal feeding given during the winter months in the Corn Belt States.

Corn prices fluctuated within narrow limits during April, but averaged lower than in March. No. 3 Yellow at Chicago averaged 58.3 cents per bushel for the month against 59.8 cents per bushel during March and 82 cents per bushel during April 1930. The relationship between hog prices and corn prices continued favorable to hog producers during the month, the ratio based on Chicago prices amounting to 12.4 or the same as in March.

Hog slaughter in each of the last four months was larger than in the corresponding month last year. Although slaughter during the three months October-December was 9 per cent smaller than a year earlier, the total slaughter for the winter marketing season October 1, 1930 to April 30, 1931 was only 2.3 per cent smaller than that of the corresponding period of a year earlier. The seasonal increase in marketings will probably continue throughout the month of May. For the remaining five months of the current marketing year, however, slaughter is expected to be somewhat smaller than during the same period a year earlier. The number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection since October 1, the number of hogs on farms January 1 and the relationship between the corn-hog ratio and subsequent marketings indicate that inspected slaughter from May to September inclusive is likely to be from 3 to 6 per cent less than that of the corresponding period in 1930. The amount of the reduction, however, will be influenced considerably by the number of hogs carried over to be fed out on the 1931 corn crop.

Fresh pork prices declined during the first half of April but advanced sharply during the second half of the month. During the week ended May 2 light loins at New York reached the 1930 level but heavy loins, shoulders and other fresh cuts were well below the averages of a year earlier even though above those of the corresponding week in March. Ten to twelve pound loins at New York averaged $18.10 during April as compared with $17.90 in March and $22.98 in April 1930. Ten to fourteen pound hams averaged $18.50 as compared with $17.00 in March and $22.92 in April 1930. Following the declines during March, cured pork prices remained practically unchanged during April. Twelve to fourteen pound regular smoked hams averaged $19.95 at New York as compared with $20.00 in March and $25.24 in April 1930. Sweet pickle cured bacon, eight to ten pounds averaged $19.50, the same as in March and compared with $22.12 in April 1930. Lard prices were somewhat weaker during the first half of April but advanced moderately during the latter part of the month. Refined lard at Chicago averaged $10.00 during April, the same as in March, but $1.65 lower than in April, 1930.

A further reduction in the foreign outlet for American pork was in evidence during March. Total exports of pork products were 11.8 per cent under those of February and 24.8 per cent under those of March 1930. Bacon exports amounting to 3,913,000 pounds were 18.5 per cent under those of February and about one-third of the movement during March 1930. Shipments of bacon to United Kingdom were the smallest since October 1930 and were 11.7 per cent under those of February. Bacon exports to Cuba were about the same as a month earlier and slightly larger than in March 1930. Takings by Germany showed an increase over February but were still unusually small compared with recent years.

The bacon export trade during the first half of the current marketing year reflects the severe competition from European hog producers particularly Danish, and reduced consumer demand in Europe. Total exports for this period amounted to 25,155,000 pounds as against 68,935,000 pounds in the corresponding period of the 1929-30 marketing year and the 5-year average of 67,438,000 pounds. The reduction during this period amounted to 57.5 per cent in the United Kingdom, 93 per cent in Germany and 29 per cent in Cuba.

Exports of hams and shoulders amounting to 6,829,000 pounds showed a seasonal increase over February but were 36.7 per cent smaller than those of March 1930. Takings by United Kingdom increased 82 per cent over February, but were still under the 1930 level. Exports to Cuba were more than twice as large as in February and 80 per cent larger than in March a year earlier. The total movement of hams and shoulders for the first half of the current marketing year amounting to 40,835,000 pounds showed a much smaller reduction than that of bacon, being 26.7 per cent smaller than during the first half of the 1929-30 year and about 40 per cent under the 5-year average. Exports to United Kingdom were about one-third as large as those of a year earlier and exports to Canada were reduced 39.5 per cent. Takings by Cuba were about the same as in the first half of the preceding marketing year.

Lard exports fell off in March after attaining the 1930 level during January and February. The March movement was about 15 per cent smaller than in February and 12 per cent under that of March 1930. The movement to United Kingdom was maintained at the February level and was 27.5 per cent larger than a year earlier. Exports to Germany, however, were 24 per cent smaller than in February, about the same as those of March last year. A reduction of 1,000,000 pounds in the movement to Cuba from that of a month earlier was about offset by increased movement to the Netherlands. Lard exports for the first six months of the current marketing year amounting to 325,099,000 pounds were 26 per cent smaller than in the corresponding period a year earlier. Takings by United Kingdom were 10 per cent larger than a year earlier but in Germany they were reduced 44 per cent. Marked reductions also occurred during this period in the movement to Cuba and the Netherlands.

The effects of the business depression, decline in the general price level and reduced foreign demand in the hog and pork situation in the United States during the first half of the current marketing year is reflected in the statistical summary of pork production and distribution during this period compared with that of corresponding period a year earlier as shown in page 11. The number of hogs slaughtered during the period was 2.6 per cent less than a year earlier. Due to the heavier weights, however, total dressed weight of hogs slaughtered was only about 1 per cent less. Adding storage holdings October 1, 1930, and imports, the amount available for consumption and export was 5.7 per cent less. But exports were reduced 32 per cent and consumption 4.4 per cent even though hog prices were 17.2 per cent lower than in the preceding year. As a result of the reduced outlet at home and abroad, the amount of pork products in storage on April 1 was 7.4 per cent larger than on April 1, 1930.

Lard production during the six-months period decreased relatively more than the number of hogs slaughtered even though hogs were marketed at heavier weights. Packers apparently coverted a larger proportion of their hogs into cured products. Lard production per 100 pounds live weight of hogs was 6.4

per cent less than a year earlier and total lard production decreased 7.4 per cent. Lard exports declined about 26 per cent and domestic consumption fell off about 3.4 per cent. Lard in storage on April 1 was 25.3 per cent less than on April 1, 1930.

UNITED STATES: Statistical summary of hog and pork situation, first half of marketing year, October 1 - March 31, 1930 and 1931

Item	Unit	Oct. - Mar. 1929-30	Oct. - Mar. 1930-31	1930-31 as percentage of 1929-30
				Per cent
Hogs				
Inspected slaughter	number	25,866,447	25,188,782	97.38
Carcasses condemned	"	68,961	65,848	95.49
Average live weight	pound	227.18	229.16	100.87
Average dressed weight	"	171.14	173.32	101.27
Total dressed weight (carcass, excluding condemned)	1,000 lbs	4,410,800	4,364,145	98.94
Storage, Oct. 1				
Fresh pork	" "	119,204	92,305	77.43
Cured pork	" "	481,294	355,122	73.78
Lard	" "	153,690	59,732	38.87
Total	" "	754,188	507,159	67.25
Imports, pork	" "	2,825	2,214	78.37
Available for consumption a/	" "	5,167,813	4,873,518	94.31
Exports				
Pork	" "	169,075	90,503	53.53
Lard	" "	448,173	330,699	73.79
Total	" "	617,248	421,202	68.24
Storage, Apr. 1				
Fresh pork	" "	206,417	269,599	130.61
Cured pork	" "	546,579	573,943	105.01
Lard	" "	105,067	78,456	74.67
Total	" "	858,063	921,998	107.45
Apparent consumption b/	" "	3,692,502	3,530,318	95.61
Lard				
Production-				
Per 100 pounds live weight	pound	15.38	14.40	93.63
Total	1,000 lbs	899,650	832,775	92.57
Apparent consumption	" "	500,100	483,352	96.65
Hogs, average cost for slaughter	dollar	9.65	7.95	82.38

a/ Total dressed weight + imports + storage October 1.
b/ Available for consumption - (exports + storage April 1).

UNITED STATES: Number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Oct.	3,314	2,976	2,969	3,713	3,857	3,492
Nov.	3,646	3,610	3,688	4,455	4,499	4,024
Dec.	4,533	4,394	4,869	5,782	5,083	4,647
Jan.	4,501	4,514	5,479	5,738	5,001	5,362
Feb.	3,351	3,395	5,780	4,478	4,034	4,142
Mar.	3,562	3,837	5,140	3,645	3,392	3,523
Apr.	3,105	3,330	3,446	3,761	3,480	3,488
May	3,131	3,766	3,884	3,798	3,823	
June	3,430	4,253	4,078	3,756	3,689	
July	3,127	3,431	2,984	3,597	3,187	
Aug.	2,834	3,050	2,545	3,130	2,724	
Sept.	2,616	2,534	2,508	3,104	2,773	
Total.	41,150	43,090	47,370	48,957	45,542	

UNITED STATES: Average live weight of hogs slaughtered, by months, 1925 - 1931

Month	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Jan.	212.1	232.8	226.9	225.0	225.4	229.3	235.6
Feb.	215.7	234.8	232.3	230.9	227.9	231.0	234.2
Mar.	219.3	239.1	235.6	229.5	229.5	230.2	230.2
Apr.	225.0	240.3	235.2	225.5	229.8	228.2	
May	228.5	238.1	235.4	230.3	232.3	229.9	
June	230.9	246.1	238.2	231.9	239.6	239.5	
July	241.1	258.1	251.2	241.3	250.0	249.9	
Aug.	245.8	259.0	253.8	243.3	249.3	245.2	
Sept.	239.0	239.7	240.4	233.0	238.3	230.8	
Oct.	229.2	215.9	225.9	226.6	228.8	221.9	
Nov.	221.6	212.3	218.3	223.6	220.1	220.5	
Dec.	224.6	217.5	217.6	222.9	223.6	226.5	
Av.	225.5	235.1	233.3	229.3	231.7	231.2	

Compiled from slaughterhouse reports.

UNITED STATES: Total bacon exports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	13,166	11,742	7,709	4,973	9,858	3,268
Nov.	13,562	8,507	6,013	6,716	11,452	3,446
Dec.	16,405	9,601	9,347	9,593	9,868	4,474
Jan.	21,142	10,015	11,660	13,014	13,324	5,253
Feb.	14,980	9,642	10,921	11,286	12,184	4,801
Mar.	13,597	8,567	15,106	10,985	12,249	3,913
Apr.	11,570	7,417	10,073	10,225	7,979	
May	12,225	7,852	9,692	14,395	8,553	
June	9,472	10,301	9,620	12,761	6,413	
July	7,670	9,270	11,648	10,950	5,339	
Aug.	12,131	7,864	10,945	13,171	6,900	
Sept.	14,870	11,620	6,881	10,288	4,973	
Total	160,790	112,398	119,615	128,357	109,092	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

UNITED STATES: Total exports of hams and shoulders, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	14,494	10,847	7,632	4,747	7,580	5,259
Nov.	16,243	13,105	7,374	7,637	11,656	10,089
Dec.	19,827	12,675	9,905	8,518	6,957	5,825
Jan.	21,000	9,873	10,005	11,187	9,461	7,295
Feb.	19,105	9,511	10,976	7,680	9,213	5,538
Mar.	18,117	9,253	12,222	11,140	10,790	6,829
Apr.	18,059	10,007	11,258	13,857	12,416	
May	16,682	13,092	11,390	11,246	13,845	
June	13,218	13,471	13,754	12,571	12,158	
July	13,512	13,158	13,557	12,621	13,779	
Aug.	15,972	8,215	13,402	10,849	10,820	
Sept.	11,425	11,123	6,681	8,478	6,432	
Total	197,654	134,330	128,156	120,531	125,107	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

UNITED STATES: Total lard exports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	44,745	46,988	50,355	59,865	70,698	41,396
Nov.	39,979	43,488	49,636	67,716	83,257	42,552
Dec.	68,840	62,630	62,855	86,358	80,053	45,114
Jan.	76,670	59,842	70,660	89,932	73,291	68,882
Feb.	65,356	49,880	79,872	65,924	65,953	68,760
Mar.	64,259	53,040	79,929	70,572	66,533	58,395
Apr.	63,160	67,345	56,554	59,144	50,045	
May	58,154	64,418	55,540	64,192	62,562	
June	56,482	66,404	53,436	67,252	56,666	
July	45,873	46,972	52,940	64,274	51,670	
Aug.	54,273	50,816	50,658	55,487	49,287	
Sept.	61,577	59,736	46,158	58,329	37,417	
Total	699,368	671,609	708,593	809,045	747,432	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

Canada

The immediate outlook for Canadian hog markets is for somewhat erratic trading, with supplies fluctuating rather sharply up and down, states the Canadian Government livestock report for the week ended April 30. During the last week of April heavier receipts of hogs at Toronto and weaker western markets caused a 75-cent decline per 100 pounds at Toronto. The price of bacon hogs off cars at Toronto was $8.00 per 100 pounds compared with $8.75 the preceding week.

Although hog prices at Toronto fluctuated considerably during April, the average for the month was higher than for March. The weekly average price at Toronto for the four weeks ended April 30 was $8.50 per 100 pounds for bacon hogs compared with the monthly average of $7.92 for March 1931 and $13.00 for April 1930. Prices declined from September 1930 to March 1931, April being the first month to show an increase. The total number of hogs graded at stock yards and packing plants in Canada, as adjusted from weekly reports, was 212,000 in April 1931 compared with 207,000 during the month of March. Of the above number, approximately 76,000 were graded at Ontario stock yards and packing plants in April compared with about 73,000 in March and 75,000 in April 1930.

CANADA: Movement of hogs, pork and bacon, January-March, 1928-1931

Item	Unit	Jan.-Mar. 1928	1929	1930	1931
Graded at stockyards and meat packing plants, total Canada	thousand	843	765	605	594
Select bacon hogs	"	139	124	89	86
Bacons	"	a/	a/	198	224
Butchers	"	a/	a/	231	217
Graded at stockyards and meat packing plants, Ontario	"	354	294	230	197
Sold and billed through stockyards, total	"	363	357	405	410
Sold at stockyards	"	334	293	249	252
Billed through stockyards	"	29	64	156	158
Slaughter: Inspected	"	766	672	543	481
Cold storage holdings, pork, Apr. 1	1000 lbs.	53,652	44,743	36,236	22,936
Price per 100 pounds: Monthly average, Toronto, March					
All grades	dollar	9.41	11.75	13.35	7.90
Select bacons	"	9.94	12.19	14.00	b/
Bacons	"	a/	a/	13.50	7.92
Exports:					
Live hogs, total	number	14,144	272	117	203
To United States	"	14,085	219	36	168
Bacon and hams, total	1000 lbs.	11,383	6,702	4,632	2,013
To United States	" "	1,314	803	474	289
To Great Britain	" "	9,862	5,759	4,069	1,582
Pork, total	" "	2,399	1,637	2,130	1,114
To United States	" "	940	851	422	276
To Great Britain	" "	845	383	975	73
Imports:					
Bacon and hams, total	" "	1,275	1,385	2,251	24
From United States	" "	1,272	1,384	2,251	18
Pork, total	" "	502	133	2,817	1,475
From United States	" "	502	133	2,817	1,475

Dominion Livestock Branch Markets Intelligence Service, March, Livestock Market and Meat Trade Review and Annual of same publication, 1929.
a/ Bacon and butcher grades became effective September 16, 1929.
b/ Bacon price plus $1.00 premium.

The monthly government report for March shows that during the first three months of 1931 the number of hogs slaughtered under inspection in Canada was only 481,000, a decrease of 4 per cent compared with the same period of 1930. There has been a progressive decline in slaughter since 1928 when 766,000 were slaughtered during the same three months. Sales at stockyards during the same three months of 1931, however, amounted to 252,000, a slight increase over the same period of 1930. The total number of hogs graded at stockyards and packing plants combined during the first three months of 1931 was only 594,000, or fewer than for the same period of the three preceding years. The monthly average price of all grades of hogs at Toronto in March 1931 was $7.90 per 100 pounds or 41 per cent below March 1930 and 27 per cent below the average for the three preceding years.

Cold storage holdings of pork on April 1 were light compared with the same date of the preceding four years. Although imports of pork from the United States during the first three months of 1931 were considerably greater than the exports to the United States, they were only about half the quantity imported in 1930 for the corresponding period. Bacon exports to the United States for the first three months of this year amounted to only 289,000 pounds compared with 474,000 pounds last year and considerably larger quantities in preceding years. Live hog exports from Canada to the United States have practically ceased during the last three years. For the first three months of 1931 they amounted to only 203 compared with 117 in 1930. For the last three years, hog exports to the United States for the first quarter of the year have not exceeded 300 whereas in 1928 they amounted to 14,000 for the same period. Total annual exports reached 215,000 head in 1914; 195,000 in 1927 and 20,000 in 1928.

United Kingdom

The seasonal strengthening of cured pork prices during April brought the Liverpool average for American green bellies up to $13.99 per 100 pounds, according to Agricultural Attache' Foley at London. That figure was $3.88 below the April, 1930, average and the lowest for that month since 1924. In Danish Wiltshire sides the seasonal upturn placed the April average at $16.34, being $7.56 below a year earlier and only $1.34 above the pre-war average. In American short cut green hams, an increase of 61 cents over March figures brought the April average up to $17.03, a point $5.21 below last year and the lowest April average since 1924. Cured pork stocks on May 1 at Liverpool stood at 4,504,000 pounds, an increase of 552,000 pounds above a month earlier but 2,199,000 pounds below a year ago.

Bacon imports into the United Kingdom for March reached 93,406,000 pounds, the smallest since last November, but the highest March import on record. From October 1 to March 31, total bacon imports for the 1930-31 season exceeded those of the 1929-30 season by 25.1 per cent. A drop in the November levels accounted for the bulk of the decline in the total import figure. Receipts from all important sources were somewhat below the February level, but most European sources sent larger quantities than in March, 1930. The increase in receipts from Denmark this season over last amounted to 40 per cent by March 31. Bacon imports from the United State were down to 2,067,000 pounds in March, the lowest since last November and also well below the March, 1930 figures. Imports from Canada continue very

small. The Netherlands continue to supply more bacon than last year. Ham imports, mostly from the United States, continue to run behind those of last season.

The easier lard prices apparent during April brought the Liverpool average down to $10.22 per 100 pounds, Mr. Foley reports. The current figure is 27 cents below the March average, is also lower than the April average for any post-war year and $1.48 under the pre-war average for that month. The May 1 stocks of lard at Liverpool totaled 2,063,000 pounds, a reduction from the preceding month, and also under last year's figures. Total British imports of lard in March were under the February figures, but exceeded those of March, 1930 and 1929. During the past two months British imports of lard for the current season have recovered their slight lead over the 1929-30 imports.

Domestic British and Irish pork production continues to expand slowly. Up to March 31, the season's total of fat pigs offered at representative British markets was 3.6 per cent larger than last season. Supplies of British and Irish pork for the season to April 30 were 13.6 per cent larger than last year.

UNITED KINGDOM: Bacon imports from the United States, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	11,947	10,032	5,970	2,780	3,463	967
Nov.	9,962	7,530	3,213	2,651	4,114	2,103
Dec.	15,889	7,068	3,457	2,878	5,672	3,370
Jan.	16,237	8,624	4,696	7,477	7,124	2,832
Feb.	17,226	7,569	5,541	6,467	7,038	2,394
Mar.	15,427	7,896	7,489	6,084	9,341	2,067
Apr.	11,951	5,234	5,550	3,621	5,406	
May	10,758	4,122	6,564	10,480	4,536	
June	7,995	5,037	4,650	7,043	3,754	
July	9,430	7,705	5,530	6,775	4,388	
Aug.	7,386	7,479	7,389	6,437	3,286	
Sept.	12,142	5,494	4,509	3,242	2,261	
Total	146,350	83,790	64,558	66,135	60,383	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

UNITED KINGDOM: Bacon imports from Denmark, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	31,690	34,557	50,090	50,703	47,486	70,906
Nov.	29,306	38,931	50,257	48,063	48,525	61,433
Dec.	40,377	40,194	52,244	45,580	53,490	81,294
Jan.	31,207	41,803	54,975	48,717	48,406	66,819
Feb.	30,472	42,436	53,942	41,508	44,439	67,246
Mar.	36,205	47,526	54,675	41,965	51,870	65,505
Apr.	30,468	42,993	52,745	44,031	46,204	
May	30,474	44,205	51,109	46,758	56,206	
June	29,770	51,795	51,636	41,886	54,456	
July	34,266	50,710	44,562	46,570	55,213	
Aug.	36,712	46,941	48,924	48,121	55,066	
Sept.	34,601	48,143	42,653	48,350	59,751	
Total	395,548	530,234	609,792	552,272	621,112	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

UNITED KINGDOM: Total bacon imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	66,983	73,275	85,552	82,578	72,402	95,809
Nov.	60,259	76,138	79,579	73,297	74,868	86,316
Dec.	81,951	78,867	80,679	76,771	85,603	112,267
Jan.	66,329	75,371	82,574	88,092	74,801	95,273
Feb.	65,935	69,874	85,153	68,612	73,721	99,645
Mar.	71,126	82,487	87,041	68,923	84,651	93,406
Apr.	64,527	71,277	85,815	73,126	75,096	
May	60,794	76,630	88,759	87,845	84,615	
June	61,431	88,348	86,387	71,894	83,277	
July	71,841	84,105	79,212	80,360	85,457	
Aug.	69,497	74,480	86,862	82,290	84,758	
Sept.	77,123	80,159	71,796	75,505	88,206	
Total	817,796	971,011	997,179	933,093	967,435	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

UNITED KINGDOM: Total ham imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925 - 26	1926 - 27	1927 - 28	1928 - 29	1929 - 30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	9,479	6,929	7,802	6,484	8,105	5,792
Nov.	11,613	8,762	5,836	6,782	8,125	5,755
Dec.	13,404	11,318	7,817	7,339	9,347	10,111
Jan.	13,615	8,847	6,896	8,788	7,920	7,101
Feb.	13,066	6,513	9,062	8,232	7,989	6,507
Mar.	12,516	6,910	9,264	6,828	8,601	5,337
Apr.	12,252	6,523	7,993	8,981	9,539	
May	12,076	9,208	9,334	14,136	12,298	
June	10,945	12,410	10,782	10,499	10,983	
July	10,482	12,034	11,404	12,042	14,391	
Aug.	10,451	8,282	13,594	12,073	12,024	
Sept.	11,449	8,902	7,505	8,073	7,236	
Total	141,348	106,638	107,289	110,257	116,558	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

UNITED KINGDOM: Total lard imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	16,811	21,569	17,360	18,079	21,844	22,897
Nov.	19,654	12,710	21,058	21,551	24,004	27,751
Dec.	21,403	13,772	22,351	17,480	27,160	27,270
Jan.	20,848	21,665	27,794	35,923	27,559	21,459
Feb.	24,261	19,136	28,421	29,752	25,187	32,576
Mar.	23,753	20,989	33,840	22,234	24,810	26,608
Apr.	28,172	27,032	23,031	21,612	18,218	
May	18,843	24,264	24,398	26,479	20,772	
June	20,953	28,564	19,596	20,498	21,078	
July	23,074	26,006	24,667	25,977	31,801	
Aug.	19,148	17,571	21,844	21,204	20,438	
Sept.	25,361	22,360	13,346	16,899	12,976	
Total	262,281	255,638	277,756	277,688	275,847	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

Continental Europe

Countries important in British market supplies

Denmark

The small decrease in numbers of sows and young pigs in Denmark as of January 15 indicates a slowing up in hog production, according to the quarterly Continental European hog survey for April, 1931, from Assistant Agricultural Commissioner Christy at Berlin. Hog-feed ratios were less favorable, but not generally unprofitable in Denmark early in April. A bacon-corn ratio in kronen per 100 kilograms shows that on March 20 there was a ratio of 10.1 against the more favorable 12.8 ratio of a year earlier. This situation resulted from a more rapid fall in bacon prices than in corn prices over the intervening 12 months.

A check on expansion of production, however, has been felt as a result of the drastic price declines and of increased competition in British markets from other continental sources. Offerings of considerable size have been forthcoming from Netherlands and Poland, especially. The British market situation is reported as having intensified Danish interest in developing alternate markets. Particular attention has been given the German market.

Preliminary figures on Danish bacon exports for March show a total outward movement of 65,156,000 pounds, a slight increase over February exports, and a continuation of the record monthly exports experienced during the current season. The March exports, however, were smaller than the movement in October, 1930, and in December and January, 1930-31.

DENMARK: Number of hogs, by classes, 1921-1931

Date: July 15	Sows 4 months old and over: In Farrow	Sows 4 months old and over: Total	Pigs under 2 months	Pigs 2 - 4 months	Fat hogs over 4 months	Boars over 4 months	Total hogs
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
1921...	123	178	429	492	322	9	1,430
1922...	179	254	624	650	379	12	1,899
1923...	---	320	855	1,093	572	15	2,855
1924...	207	299	861	1,077	615	15	2,868
1925...	208	290	780	378	555	14	2,517
1926...	278	391	1,010	1,055	648	18	3,122
1927...	278	396	1,170	1,350	795	20	3,731
1928...	243	344	1,011	1,256	733	18	3,363
1929...	310	434	1,103	1,285	775	19	3,613
1930...	395	586	1,670	1,619	1,020	24	4,920
1931...							
Jan.31	390	581	1,647	1,787	1,190	27	5,232

Compiled from official sources and cable from Agricultural Attaché L. V. Steere and Statistiche Efterretninger, Feb. 4, 1931.

DENMARK: Total bacon exports, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	35,526	37,860	46,129	45,[illegible]95	45,310	67,869
Nov.	31,316	38,943	45,999	49,319	51,819	64,822
Dec.	32,921	42,952	56,405	48,652	48,165	70,486
Jan.	32,783	44,572	54,002	40,830	51,543	72,424
Feb.	33,103	42,179	50,310	41,472	43,310	64,921
Mar.	36,789	49,449	56,028	42,079	51,301	a/65,156
April	31,370	39,303	50,682	45,648	46,615	
May	29,094	49,555	52,009	49,160	57,154	
June	33,810	49,691	50,332	41,773	51,050	
July	33,542	47,279	46,680	43,857	53,403	
Aug.	34,879	47,009	46,941	49,004	56,432	
Sept.	34,274	47,374	45,481	49,442	61,539	
Total	399,407	536,166	600,998	546,531	617,641	405,678

Varcomsåtning med Udlandet.
a/ Preliminary.

Hog production in the Netherlands appears to be near the peak of the cycle, according to Mr. Christy at Berlin. Continued heavy production is expected during most of the current season. Up to April 7 the hog-feed ratio was still relatively favorable. The March 1 hog census, however, indicates that the various classes of hogs made a relatively smaller gain over the March 1, 1930, figures, than did the 1930 returns over those of March 1, 1929. The Ministry of Agriculture for the Netherlands reports the following developments in hog numbers since June, 1930. All figures are expressed in percentages of June, 1930, returns:

	Sows in farrow	Farrows under 6 weeks	Pigs of less than 132 lbs.	Hogs of 132 to 220 pounds
June 1930	100	100	100	100
Sept. 1930	94	111	108	129
Dec. 1930	105	89	114	123
Mar. 1931	96	121	112	118

NETHERLANDS: Number of hogs according to censuses, 1910, 1921, and 1930

Censuses	Breeding sows	Pigs under 6 weeks	Hogs up to 132 pounds	Hogs 132 to 220 pounds	Hogs over 220 pounds	Total hogs
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
May-June 1910		279		980		1,260
May-June 1921		371		1,148		1,519
May-June 1930	242	472	940	263	101	2,018
Mar. 1931 (est.)a/	232	571	1,053	430		2,286

Verslag oven den Landbouw in Nederland 1928, Commercial Attache J. F. Van Wickel, January 16, 1931.
a/ Estimates based on percentage increase over June 1930 numbers as furnished by Asst. Agricultural Commissioner Christy.

NETHERLANDS: Estimated percentages of increase of hogs on specified dates in 1930 and 1931 compared with preceding year

Date	Sows in farrow	Farrows under 6 weeks	Pigs over 6 weeks to 132 pounds	Hogs 132 to 220 pounds	Hogs over 220 pounds
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Mar. 1, 1930	+ 30	+ 15 to 20	+ 10	+ 5	slight increase
June 1, 1930	+ 20	+ 15 to 20	+ 15	+10 to 15	+ 5
Sept. 1, 1930 ...	+ 15	+ 15	+10 to 15	+ 10	slight increase
Dec. 1, 1930	+10 to 15	+ 10 to 15	+ 15	+30 to 40	+ 10
Mar. 1, 1931	slight	+ 5	+ 5 to 10	+ 10	little change

Based on reports furnished by Livestock Extension Agents and forwarded by Agricultural Attache Steere and Asst. Agricultural Commissioner Christy.
Plus sign indicates increase; minus sign, decrease.

Bacon production in Poland has made considerable progress, Mr. Christy reports. A firmer footing apparently has been secured in the British market, where competition is being offered Danish and Netherlands bacon, as well as that of the United States and other countries. At present, however, Polish hog producers are meeting less favorable marketing conditions, with prices declining and feed costs advancing. The disposition of Polish hogs in neighboring countries is subject to an increasing amount of restriction which may tend to divert additional numbers to the United Kingdom in the form of bacon. In 1930 about 50 per cent of the Polish live hog exports went to Czechoslovakia, but recent Czech tariff provisions have materially reduced that outlet. In France, more stringent sanitary regulations are said to hamper the expanding movement of Polish pork products. The Austrian market is still open to Polish hogs, but with keen competition from Austrian producers.

POLAND: Exports of slaughter hogs and of bacon, by months and countries, 1930 and 1931

Year and month	Hogs				Bacon	
	Austria	Czecho-slovakia	Germany	Total	United Kingdom	Total
1930	Number	Number	Number	Number	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Jan.	16,848	29,542	558	46,966	1,963	1,963
Feb.	23,554	44,134	446	68,134	3,334	3,423
Mar.	32,413	31,592	335	64,340	3,854	3,856
Apr.	22,560	16,354	130	39,044	4,776	4,780
May	21,457	17,834	2	39,293	4,714	4,714
June	27,793	23,512	60	52,083	3,574	3,574
July	27,547	28,835	58	56,440	5,181	5,181
Aug.	29,351	28,831	2,246	60,428	3,995	3,995
Sept.	30,708	35,961	2,643	69,312	4,442	4,442
Oct.	32,614	45,908	2,641	81,163	5,766	5,766
Nov.	28,510	34,439	3,302	66,285	5,509	5,509
Dec.	48,679	26,297	2,383	77,359	6,553	6,553
Total	342,034	363,239	14,804	720,847	53,661	53,756
1931						
Jan.	40,758	4,700	1,569	47,027	8,496	8,496

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner D. F. Christy, Berlin.

Germany

Total hog numbers in Germany as of March 1, 1931, reached 21,800,000 head, according to Mr. Christy. That figure was 16.8 per cent greater than a year earlier, when March returns were first made. All age classes of German hogs showed increases over corresponding figures for 1930. When compared with the January, 1931 returns, the only two age groups to show an increase are those of young pigs under 8 weeks and pigs 8 weeks to 6 months old. The increases in those classes together with the number of brood sows in farrow, are regarded as sufficient to insure an additional increase in the total number of hogs in Germany between now and September 1. The record

German potato harvest of 1930 is held as the leading factor present in German breeding operations despite the steady decline in hog prices. In eastern Germany especially, where potatoes are a more important crop than in western Germany, the fattening of hogs was still profitable up to early April. Mr. Christy reports, with pork being regarded as the only extensive outlet for surplus potatoes. Statements from the Breslau potato markets, however, indicate that prices had a tendency to advance slightly during March.

On the other hand, the higher prices of barley and corn and the sharp reduction in rye stocks have been factors in making the feed grain-hog ratio less favorable. March reports from Leipzic indicate a continued upward movement in barley prices. Northwestern Germany has been especially affected, since the hog producers in that area depend almost entirely on grain feeding. As a result, there has been a tendency toward shifting the intensity of hog production into the eastern areas. While total hogs in Germany increased 17 per cent during 1930, the increase in eastern Germany was 24 per cent and only 6 per cent in northwestern Germany. Meanwhile, the declining value of all European hogs brought the Berlin average price of heavy hogs for April down to $9.39 per 100 pounds. That figure was about $4.75 below the April, 1930, average and the lowest for any month since July, 1923. Effective May 10, the German import duty on live hogs was raised to $4.32 per 100 pounds (40 marks per 100 kilograms). The former rate, in effect since April 14, 1930, was $2.92 per 100 pounds (27 marks per 100 kilograms).

Preliminary figures for April indicate that hog receipts at 14 German markets were heavier than for any month since the heavy marketing period of the 1927-28 season. Hog slaughterings at 36 centers for March reached the record monthly figure of 506,000 head. The season's total slaughter to March 31 shows a gain of 18.8 per cent over last year. Despite the heavier domestic German pork production, however, bacon imports for the current season continue to exceed those of last year, the supplies coming largely from Netherlands and Denmark. The season's total bacon imports to March 31 were 26.9 per cent larger than the corresponding imports of last season. In the Hamburg lard market, the April average returned to the lower levels of early 1930 to reach $10.91 per 100 pounds. That figure was about $1.00 under the April, 1930 average and nearly $2.00 under the pre-war average for April. March lard imports again made a fair volume, and were larger than imports for that month in either 1930 or 1929, The season's total, however, is still about 21 per cent below last season's comparable figure.

Lard imports into Germany from Denmark are assuming greater importance, according to Consul General John E. Kehl at Hamburg. Imports from that country in March, 1931, reached 4,090,000 pounds against 2,045,000 pounds for March, 1930. The 1931 imports from Denmark were sold at prices some 10 per cent below quotations on American lard, Consul Kehl reports. He quotes a German provision trade publication, however, to the effect that German consumers have a tendency to favor the Danish product on the ground of a more satisfactory flavor. The German writer holds corn feeding of American hogs responsible for the unpopular flavor. He states furth r that German lard makers flavor their product to please consumers' taste and that Danish exporters are taking similar steps with their product.

GERMANY: Number of hogs according to detailed classification, specified dates 1914, 1927-1931

Date of census	Young pigs: Under 8 weeks	Young pigs: 8 weeks to 6 months	6 months to 1 year: Breeding sows: In farrow	6 months to 1 year: Breeding sows: Total	6 months to 1 year: Total	1 year and over: Breeding sows: In farrow	1 year and over: Breeding sows: Total	1 year and over: Total	Total hogs
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
June 2, 1914	14,825			714			1,531		22,118
Dec. 1, 1927	4,379	9,910		504	5,751		1,218	2,858	22,899
June 1, 1928	4,936	9,557		707	4,149		1,150	1,545	20,187
Dec. 1, 1928	4,003	8,487		556	5,129		1,063	2,487	20,106
June 1, 1929	4,160	8,099		671	3,060		1,145	1,475	16,795
Sept. 1, 1929	5,373	8,290		652	4,288		1,208	1,653	19,604
Dec. 1, 1929	4,412	8,679		663	4,599		1,178	2,234	19,944
Mar. 1, 1930	5,012	8,555	455	722	3,487	792	1,229	1,595	18,649
June 1, 1930	5,091	,178	574	876	3,842	915	1,356	1,694	19,805
Sept. 1, 1930	6,522	9,809	442	812	5,125	861	1,467	1,967	23,423
Dec. 1, 1930	5,440	10,003	368	673	5,471	939	1,496	2,451	23,565
Mar. 1, 1931	5,750	10,231	425	706	3,939	927	1,517	1,870	21,790

Compiled from Deutcher Reichsanzeiger, Vierteljahrshefte and cables from Agricultural Attache at Berlin.

GERMANY: Total imports of lard, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	21,389	21,387	20,533	13,240	20,480	14,364
Nov.	5,336	21,715	14,437	15,793	18,831	9,704
Dec.	8,525	17,216	12,1[illegible]2	19,373	21,031	10,254
Jan.	19,559	20,818	16,159	24,841	24,367	16,155
Feb.	24,964	16,044	16,375	13,638	15,686	20,042
Mar.	24,098	17,176	22,305	17,686	17,364	a/22,487
Apr.	21,396	23,511	18,546	22,848	17,886	
May	16,732	16,353	14,311	19,640	14,545	
June	18,443	19,307	14,555	13,528	13,669	
July	17,125	24,817	13,711	14,233	13,591	
Aug.	17,143	13,324	13,829	13,080	12,961	
Sept.	17,819	14,760	14,760	13,065	12,716	
Total	212,529	226,428	191,713	201,015	203,177	

Monatliche Nachweise über den Auswärtigen Handel Deutschlands. a/ Preliminary.

GERMANY: Total bacon imports, by months, 1925-26 to 1930-31

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	2,442	2,025	1,019	817	1,839	1,728
Nov.	959	2,118	945	811	1,530	1,881
Dec.	1,265	2,007	913	1,050	1,111	1,715
Jan.	1,911	1,595	905	1,302	1,377	2,052
Feb.	2,021	1,493	1,213	769	1,607	2,566
Mar.	1,745	1,127	625	908	2,239	a/2,480
Apr.	1,775	867	418	765	1,795	
May	1,758	847	322	795	1,139	
June	1,947	778	602	687	937	
July	1,452	606	421	1,102	882	
Aug.	1,877	474	383	953	1,432	
Sept.	1,999	912	523	1,023	986	
Total	21,151	14,849	8,289	10,982	16,904	

Monatliche Nachweise uber den auswartigen Handel Deutschlands. a/ Preliminary.

Hungary

About 11 per cent more fat hogs will be sent to market in Hungary from April 1 to July 1, 1931 than in the corresponding 1930 period, according to the Belgrade, Yugoslavia, office of the Foreign Agricultural Service. The volume of exports depends upon the successful conclusion between Hungary and Czechoslovakia of a new commercial treaty. The latter country took about half of the hogs exported from Hungary in 1929 and 1930, with Austria taking most of the remainder. Hungarian exports of fat hogs (over 150 pounds) to all countries for the period, April - June, 1930, reached nearly 45,000 head. With a favorable outcome of the treaty negotiations, it is reported that that figure could be increased by about 5,000 head. Hungarian exports of all live hogs totaled 248,500 head for 1930 against 272,663 in 1929.

Other European countries

Consul Kehl reports also that American lard is at a disadvantage, principally as to price, in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, and Hungary. In Belgium there is little business in American pork products, according to Consul W. S. Reineck at Antwerp. Sausage has enjoyed a better demand than most other American products in recent weeks. In Lithuania hog numbers increased to 1,136,000 for 1930 against 944,000 in 1929 and 1,060,000 for 1928, states Consul H. S. Fullerton at Kovno.

Mexico

Hog raising on a large scale is being considered in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, according to Consul F. H. Styles. The good prices paid for imported pork products have stimulated interest in domestic production.

Plans are under way for a cold storage plant at Torreon. Both Mexican and American ranchers in Chihuahua are interested in the new project.

Brazil

A new packing house, primarily for pork products, has been completed recently at Porto Alegre, State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, Consul C. R. Nasmith reports. The new plant is designed for contributing supplies of cured pork and lard to the European trade. Stocks of pork products are now relatively larger in that port of Brazil, but an exchange situation favorable to buyers is expected to assist exports. Hog numbers in Rio Grande do Sul increased to 5,933,000 in 1929 from 5,643,000 in 1925. Lard production in local refineries rose from 105,757,000 pounds in 1925 to 173,734,000 pounds in 1930. Lard exports from the State reached 70,465,000 pounds in 1930 against 91,565,000 pounds in 1929. Of the 1930 exports, 842,000 pounds went to foreign countries against 792,000 pounds in 1929. There is some question as to the competitive quality of Brazilian lard, the Consul reports.

HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: Indices of foreign supplies and demand

Country and item	Unit	Mar. 1909-10 to 1913-14 average	1924-25 to 1928-29 average	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31
UNITED KINGDOM:							
Production -							
Fat pigs, certain markets	1000's	331	346	366	408	355	368
Supplies, domestic fresh pork, London	1000 pounds		35,279	52,345	51,927	39,565	44,139
Imports -							
Bacon -							
Denmark	"	120,293	250,889	316,183	276,556	294,216	413,203
Irish F. State	"		30,160	30,961	37,091	24,411	15,465
United States	"	95,790	57,716	30,366	28,337	36,752	13,733
Canada	"	19,889	39,767	20,485	10,298	8,918	1,813
Others	"	20,376	75,024	102,353	111,791	101,729	138,502
Total	"	256,348	453,556	500,348	464,073	466,026	582,716
Ham, total	"	44,415	60,079	46,677	44,453	50,087	40,603
Lard, total	"	115,615	132,506	150,824	145,019	150,564	158,561
DENMARK:							
Exports -							
Bacon	"		250,965	308,873	267,647	291,448	405,678
CANADA:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	874	1,461	1,476	1,343	1,247	979
GERMANY:							
Production -							
Hog receipts 14 cities	"		1,636	2,240	1,843	1,678	1,855
Hog slaughter 36 centers	"	2,237	2,038	2,725	2,429	2,154	2,560
Imports -	1000						
Bacon, total	pounds	1,475	10,106	5,620	5,657	9,733	12,412
Lard, total	"	105,362	113,311	102,001	104,621	117,809	98,932
UNITED STATES:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	17,416	25,967	27,925	27,811	25,866	25,190
Exports -							
Bacon -	1000						
United Kingdom	pounds	68,346	35,407	19,606	20,399	30,190	12,821
Germany	"	1,045	6,099	5,767	2,668	4,175	304
Cuba	"	3,801	10,869	9,931	7,587	7,947	5,654
Total	"	92,954	75,371	60,756	56,567	68,935	25,155
Hams, shoulders							
United Kingdom	"	68,594	70,441	46,051	39,257	44,024	32,209
Total	"	79,265	85,024	58,114	50,909	55,657	40,835
Lard -							
United Kingdom	"	89,430	114,898	130,811	131,025	131,031	144,356
Germany	"	76,146	99,135	90,990	112,229	109,621	61,192
Cuba	"	18,216	41,883	43,636	42,431	39,815	24,125
Netherlands	"	21,218	3,374	22,004	23,246	27,350	15,561
Total	"	250,009	379,652	393,307	440,367	439,785	325,099

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HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: Foreign and domestic average prices per 100 pounds for the month indicated, and stocks at the end of each month

Item	Mar. 1909-1913 average	Mar. 1925-1929 average	Mar. 1930	Feb. 1931	Mar. 1931
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prices -					
Hogs, Chicago, basis packers' and shippers' quotations	8.02	11.31	10.17	7.06	7.46
Corn, Chicago, No. 3 Yellow	1.04	1.61	1.43	1.09	1.07
Hogs, heavy, Berlin, live weight	11.35	14.03	14.99	10.66	10.18
Potatoes, Breslau feeding	.39	.56	.32	.26	.28
Barley, Leipzig	1.75	2.37	1.65	2.11	2.22
Lard-					
Chicago	10.60	14.83	12.12	8.94	10.00
Liverpool	11.80	15.32	11.80	9.78	10.49
Hamburg	13.89	15.72	11.93	10.42	11.10
Cured pork -					
Liverpool -					
American short cut green hams	13.80	22.72	21.68	17.71	16.42
American green bellies		20.24	17.94	13.38	13.01
Danish Wiltshire sides	14.70	23.20	24.38	13.58	13.85
Canadian green sides	14.14	a/ 22.20	23.55	b/	b/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Stocks-					
Liverpool-					
Hams, bacon and shoulders		9,589	6,681	5,226	3,952
Lard, refined		3,742	3,781	1,673	2,415
United States -					
Processed pork c/		822,859	752,996	853,408	843,542
Lard in cold storage		135,859	105,067	74,977	78,456

a/ Three-year average only.
b/ No quotation.
c/ Dry salt sured and in process of cure; pickled, cured, and in process of cure, and frozen.

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